

6th Air Defense Artillery FRG Newsletter

July -2011

Commander's Corner

The Summer months are here along with Children being out of school. Taking time with families is a high priority for the Brigade and I encourage leave to ensure our resiliency. Our FRG continues to grow with families participating in multiple events which involve them into our war fighting and training business.

I continue to applaud our volunteers in all that they do. I especially thank our Care Team representatives for their time and effort. We must continue to keep this team trained and ready for any tragedy that may strike. Again, thanks for all your time and support.

As we move through the Summer, prevention of heat injuries along with practicing safe outdoor sport and recreation activities is paramount for our readiness. Everyone is important to our Team!

Sincerely,

Thanks for all you do.

COL Bill & Brigitte Stacey
"Grizzly 6"



6th ADA BDE Social at LETRA 23 July

You and your family are cordially invited to join 6BDE for a fabulous fun weekend at Lake Elmer Thomas Recreation Area (LETRA) which is Fort Sill's premier recreation destination. Located within close proximity to the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge and Medicine Park, LETRA features a no-wake lake with year round camping availability, cabins and summer recreational activities. Facilities at LETRA include a boat ramp, picnic areas, beaches and swimming areas. LETRA patrons will enjoy a wide range of activities including fishing, hiking, biking, mini-golf, bird watching, volleyball and even scuba diving

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Chaplain's Words of Praise

Romans 13:12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

There seems to be a spirit of apathy and a lack of understanding about the times in which we live. Despite all the things going on in the world today, the sense of urgency about the hour seemed lost among many.

Dr. Albert Bartlett, an expert on compounding, gave this scenario. Let's suppose you're sitting in a water tight baseball stadium which seats over 50,000 people, and you're handcuffed to the top bleacher. Let's say a single drop of water is placed in the center of the stadium and is allowed to double at a rate of 1 time per minute. In other words, 1 drop doubled, equals two drops added to the stadium. The next minute, two drops doubled equals four drops, next minute, four doubled equals eight, and so on.

How many minutes do you suppose you'd have before you'd drown? A few months? A few days? Get this -- how about 49 minutes?! That's right; it would take only 49 minutes to drown completely! What's even more remarkable is that at 44 minutes, the amount of water in the stadium would only be at 7%! Seriously, do the math!

You see, the real action takes place only in the last five minutes. It seems there is all the time in the world and then...perhaps this is one reason the scriptures say the Lord will come as a thief in the night!

I do not want to be sitting there in the top bleacher, oblivious and helpless -- do you? Those of us who are aware of the times have a key to the handcuffs -- discernment, wisdom and faith! We will begin preparing now for the times drawing nearer by the second!

The Lord Jesus will do as he has said and we who have the key to the shackles need to be diligent setting friends, co-workers, family members and yes even our enemies free.

Worthy Ministries

Knowledge Management

Look beyond

Several years ago a young executive learned a valuable lesson that has served him well over the years and I'd like to pass the story on to you and the lesson learned:

As a young man I was always interested in archery, so I purchased my first bow and arrow set, and couldn't wait to try it out. I knew that bales of hay would be the best back drop and target pit, but none were available so I used several insulated boards and pieces of wood that were leaned up against the wall in the barn.

I thought to myself "what an excellent choice and ready to go" I started pacing off the required distance, took my best stance, placed an arrow on the bow and slowly drew the string back. I took a deep breath and released the arrow towards my target (Whooooooooosssssshh). (CRASH.). Right as I released the arrow, all I could hear was breaking glass. I went over to my target area and behind the insulated board were the 20 storm windows from around the house and the arrow had gone through every single one. (OUCH!). I have never forgotten that lesson, and it just shows that we should always plan ahead, don't rush into things without looking for the "Not so obvious",

because our best aimed intentions are not what we plan then to be, but what we least expected. Look a little past the obvious, and look for the glass that may be broken.

Now, here is the good news. Though a bad thing happened, you are still alive to tell the story, learn from the experience, and pass the knowledge on to others so that they too will not make the same mishap you did. Here is one of the great things about life: IT'S ALL A MAKE MISTAKES, LEARN NEW LESSONS AND GROW MORE CONFIDENT IN THE PROCESS.

Remember "without the lesson/pain/teaching or broken glass, there is no growth, so don't be afraid to take chances, just check for the storm windows behind the Vail target. and READY, SET, AIM... (Nice shot!)

Don't be too timid and squeamish about your actions, all of life is an experiment.

The willingness to do creates the ability to do.

Do or do not; There is no try.

If you say you can't do it, the world will believe you; if you say you can do it, the world will await the proof.

Failure is nature's plan to prepare you for great responsibilities.

Respectfully,
Mr. James Wall
nFocus Software
Knowledge Management Advisor
FKN - ADA Support
(580) 442-1820 (Ofc)
(580) 647-0420 (Mbl)

"Have you scheduled a KM briefing for your unit today?"

FRSA Notes

Great Travel Opportunities for Service Members & Families



The Armed Forces Vacation Club (AFVC) is a “Space Available” program that offers Department of Defense affiliated personnel the opportunity to take affordable condominium vacations at the resorts around the world for only \$249 per unit per week. The AFVC makes this possible by utilizing “excess” inventory at the condominium timeshare resorts. “Excess” inventory consists of condominium units that resort owners do not use, which generally means off season or short-notice travel. If you enjoy off-season activities in popular locations without the hassle of high-season prices, crowds and the lines or if you can travel on 10 days notice or less, the AFVC offers an incredible vacation value.

Eligibility

You are eligible to participate in the Armed Forces Vacation Club if you are 21 or older and a :

- Current Active or Service Member or National Guard Member
- Retired Service or National Guard member
- Spouse or child (21 or older) of an active or retired member of National Guard and have a current DD Form 1173, United States Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card.

There are NO membership applications to fill out, fees or dues to pay or time-share presentations to attend.

Making Reservations

(ALL TIMES ET/STD)

Mon – Fri: 7 am to Midnight

Sat: 9:00 am to 8:00 pm

Sun: 9:30 am to 8:00 pm

Please have the following information ready:

- NAME
- NUMBER IN PARTY
- BRANCH OF SERVICE
- INSTALLATION NUMBER
- TRAVEL DATES AND DESTINATION
- CREDIT CARD NUMBER

When a vacation guide answers, they will ask for your account number. If this is your first call, tell them you are a “first-time AFVC caller.” The vacation guide will take your name, address, telephone number, AFVC Installation Number and assist with making reservation. At the end of the call, even if you do not complete a reservation, the guide will assign you an account number for future use.

Taking a “Staycation” – a vacation at home – can be a great way to spend time with your family and save a little money. Find out what’s fun or unique in your area. Pretend you’re a tourist and research what’s nearby. Go online to read restaurant reviews and check out local museums and attractions. Talk to friends and neighbors.

- Make a plan. Have a general idea of what you want to do each day so you don’t spend time doing laundry or working on household projects. But be sure to leave a little free time in your schedule.
- Take advantage of local coupons and military discounts. These will help make your dollar go farther.
- Make it feel like a vacation. Budget for a few meals out and a cleaning service before or after your staycation. Try to limit your time checking email or calling the office.
- Mix it up. Let each member of the family help plan. If your children are older, let them plan a whole day, including meals, activities, and budgeting.
- Invite a friend. It may be difficult to include friends on a typical vacation, but with a staycation, you can easily invite a friend to spend the day with your family. Try letting each child invite a friend for the day he has planned.
- Split it up. You don’t have to spend every minute together. Maybe the girls want to spend the afternoon at a water park, while the boys see a movie. If you split up, everyone will get to do something they like.

Fort Sill’s Family Support Center, BLDG 4700 can give you information and support on many issues that affect service members and their families.

Military OneSource, a free 24/7 service from DoD, available to all active-duty, Guard, and Reserve members and their families, provides information and referrals plus face-to-face counseling. Call 1-800-342-9647 or access

- Hire a babysitter and enjoy an evening out with your spouse. Visit a new restaurant, see a movie, or take advantage of a local museum or amusement park that stays open late.
- Throw a party. This can be a great time to get family and friends together for a backyard barbecue.
- Have a field day. Set up games in your backyard. Invite friends over and make a day of it with medals and prizes for everyone.
- Pack a picnic. Visit a park or a local beach and bring a picnic lunch. Many picnic areas have grills so you can cook out.
- Take a hike. Visit city and community websites for a list of local hiking areas. Also, go online to the U.S. National Park Service website to get your search stated.
- Try something new. You may be surprised at what you and your children can do. Visit a climbing wall, take a golf lesson, or enroll in a scuba class. Take the opportunity to get outside your comfort zone.
- Try geocaching. With a handheld GPS, you can search for treasure near your home. This is a great activity for children of all ages. To find more information and opportunities in your local area, click [here](#).
- Camp out in your backyard. The kids will love the novelty of sleeping in the backyard. You can cook dinner over a campfire, tell ghost stories, and roast marshmallows.
- Use your imagination. Come up with your own ideas by visiting local websites and talking with friends who have lived in the area a while. Your children can also be a great resource for fun ideas.

In the Know

Transportation available to LETRA

The LETRA Express will run every Friday and Saturday through August 13th to Lake Elmer Thomas Recreation Area. The LETRA Express will pick riders up from Lawton's downtown hub and the Fort Sill Exchange beginning at 11 a.m. and rotating on a 2 hour schedule. The last bus will leave LETRA at 4 p.m. on Fridays and 6 p.m. on Saturdays. Passengers 18 and older will need a valid I.D. to enter through Fort Sill gates. For more information on the LATS bus route, call (580) 248-5252. For more information on LETRA, visit <http://www.sillmwr.com/recreation-leisure/letra/> or call (580) 442-2025.

Military Spouse Employment:

Military One Source Career Center, 1-800-342-9647
Offers comprehensive spouse education and career opportunities that aim to put spouses in a solid career path via Career Exploration, Education and Training, Employment Readiness and Career Connections.

Military Spouse Employment Partnership (MSEP) launches June 29, 2011.

The Military Spouse Employment Partnership (MSEP) program is one of the most effective ways to make employment connections that will lead to job offers. MSEP is currently working with dozens of Fortune 500 Plus

corporate partners who are actively recruiting military spouses

DECA announces Commissary Gift Card Program

www.commissaries.com

The gift cards, available in denominations of \$25 and \$50, will be available June 30 for purchase in stateside stores or online.

2011 ACT SAT Test and Registration Dates

Remember to reference:

SAT Test and Registration dates- collegeboard.com

ACT Test and Registration dates- www.actstudent.org

2010 - 2011 Frances Hesselbein Student Leadership Program Application deadline 10 September 2011

The Frances Hesselbein Student Leadership Program provides outstanding sophomore or juniors participating in their high school S2S program the opportunity to apply for selection to a five-day leadership development program at the United States Military Academy at West Point New York.

The Frances Hesselbein Student Leadership Program scholarship covers: Full Tuition Including meals, lodging, program materials, and transportation (from student's home base to training location and back)

Significant Dates: No Sill Facts in July

08 July Grierson CDC Special Opening- 7-11 PM – Great opportunity for a date night with your spouse

10- 14 6 BDE Command Inspections

13 July Resume/ Interview, 10-12, RTC, BDLG 2871 on Craig Road, 580-442-4359

13, 14 & 20 July AFTB Level II Part 1,2 & 3, 9:30-3 PM at the AFTB Training Center, BLDG 2719 Bragg Road

14 -15 July Teenager Babysitter and CPR Course, Youth Services, 442-4831

16 July, Military Appreciation and Family Fun Day, 16 July, LETRA

17-23 July Camp Waluhili Outdoor Adventure Camp, Ryan Moehle 405-744-4141

19 July Team Sill FRG Advisory Meeting, BLDG 3410 Crane Road, 2nd Floor Classroom, BDE & BN Commander Spouses and BN CSM spouses

19 July 3-6 ADA BN FRG Steering Committee Meeting, 1800, BN Conference Room

20 July 10-12 Job Search Workshop, RTC Life Learning Center, BLDG 2871, Craig Road, 580-442-4359

22-24 July 6BDE R & R at LETRA

23 July 6BDE Social at LETRA

22-23 July 8 Habits of Successful Marriage, 9-4m Resiliency Training Campus BLDG 2934 Marcy Road

23 Grierson CDC Special Opening 9-1- Great opportunity for a date with your spouse

23 July Letra Summer Fun, Movie on the Beach

25 July 2-6 ADA BN Golf Tournament, POC: CPT Boughton, (580) 919-6029

27 July, Family & Solider Support Training (FASST), Special Topic: Care Team Training,

29 July Oklahoma Operation: Military Kids present Science Museum Camp In, Ryan Moehle 405-744-4141

30 July PAIRS, 9-4:30, Resiliency Training Campus



Headquarters, Headquarters Battery

Family Day with EST 2000



Spouse Appreciation Day LETRA





HHB FRG would like to celebrate your birthday!

HHB Families and Soldiers are invited to come and enjoy a simple celebration, a gathering of friends; here is wishing you great happiness, a joy that never ends. Join your FRG Team on the last business day of each month for FREE cake BLDG 1607 Entrance Way beginning Wednesday, 31 August, 1100- 1330!

Thank you for all that you do!

POC: April Stallings, FRG Leader, 254-319-4165

Upcoming Events:

July 05, 1100- 1300 Hamburger/Hotdog Fundraiser
BLDG 1607

August Back to School Bash details to follow



1-56 ADA BN “Night Hides Not!”



Commander: LTC John Wanat

Acting CSM: MSG Diana Morris

FRG Leader: Michelle Niedert michtj2000@yahoo.com

Greetings again to all friends and families of 1-56 ADA!! The Family Readiness Group is the heart of a unit! The month of June brought increasing temperatures to area as the PCS season is now in full swing! Great Soldiers continue to come and go as the guidon remains! This month we celebrated the 236 Birthday of our United States Army 14 June. And while our history is forever intertwined with the Field Artillery, the Air Defense Artillery also celebrated its own birthday this month. Required knowledge in the Air Defense Artillery School is that on 20 June 1968, the Air Defense Artillery was established as a basic branch of the Army.



Battalion Payday Activities Mass formation at Burleson Hall (above). CPT Dustin McGriff (below) assumed Command of HQ/A Battery 1-56 from CPT Rowse 9 June 2011.



"The task of the leader is to get his people from where they are to where they have not been." -Henry Kissinger

For the Battalion the end of May and the month of June continued the season of transition within the battalion. The beginning of the month marked a change in leadership within the battalion as HQ/A Battery Command changed hands from CPT Amanda Rowse to CPT Dustin McGriff. The event was preceded of course by a Hail and Farewell the week prior.

It was also execution time for the ADA Re-classification course which provides experienced officers transferring into the branch with the basics of air defense equipment, capabilities and mission sets in preparation for follow-on assignments within the branch. While this course occurs only twice a year it is critical to the branch in preparing new Air Defense officers capable of serving at home and abroad. Additionally, a new BOLC class began this month while a CCC class completed training enroute to operational assignments around the world.

The CCC 02-11 graduation ceremony at the end of June marked perhaps the last time we as an institution will benefit from the 28 years of air defense experience of COL McCants, the Assistant Commandant of the Air Defense Artillery School prior to his retirement. COL McCants spoke to his last CCC Class at the graduation ceremony 28 June.



COL Karbler and COL McCants smile for the camera (above) following CCC 02-11 graduation in Kerwin Auditorium 28 June.
Below are pictures from the graduation and the ISD Crest Ceremony that followed.



Upcoming Events

6X weekend at Letra 23-24 July

Battalion Hail and Farewell July 29 location and theme TBD

Pictures from around the Battalion in JUN





We bid fond farewells to the Deneau, Rowse, and Castillo families. Thank you for the memories and your service to the Officer Education Battalion! Best wishes in all of your future endeavors! We would like to welcome the Guy, McGriff, Sarafis and Trahan families to the battalion! We know all will benefit from your collective knowledge and experiences. A special note of thanks to our deployed Logistics personnel: SSG Blaisdell who returns from deployment in August and CW2 Woodberry who departed this month for a six month deployment to Iraq, you remain in our hearts and minds as we continue the education mission. Stay safe.

From the Air Defense Artillery School's Officer Education Battalion, we hope you are staying cool this summer! Get involved! Our Family Readiness Group is in need of volunteers! We are also looking for CARE team volunteers! CARE Team members of the FRG offer emotional support and practical assistance to Family members going through difficult situations (i.e. unexpected surgery, injury, illness, etc.) This past month saw a number of local wildfires which at least on one occasion forced Soldiers to evacuate their families. We must be ready to help one another through difficult times! Remember, all volunteers must be registered in Volunteer Management Information System (VMIS). The volunteer hours tracked allows the Army to reward, inform and strengthen our military community! Please contact CPT Amanda Rowse HQ/A Battery Commander bldg. 1614 for details. Registration takes less than 10 minutes!

If you want to get involved with the FRG please contact Mrs. Michelle Niedert @ michtj2000@yahoo.com or 580-492-5575. You can also contact MAJ Irvin R. Hawkins@ irvin.hawkins@us.army.mil or call 580-558-0571.



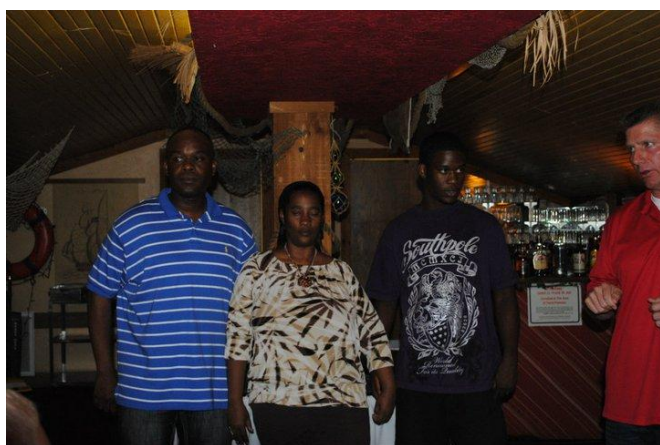
2-6 ADA BN- "Set the Standard"

Another great month has passed by. June was a very busy but stimulating and fun month for us. We continue to be excited about what we will be able to accomplish for our Soldiers and their families this year.

We cooled off with a splash at the Spray Park where we held our Battalion Family Potluck on June 3. We enjoyed great food and the company of our 2-6 BN Families. Thank you to everyone who came out and to our volunteers who helped us plan and run this event to make it a fun and great success.



We also had to say good-bye to two of our many great leaders. We farewelled MAJ Brough and MSG Moore, at Fisherman's Cove on June 17. MAJ Brough PCS's to Fort Bliss and MSG Moore will be attending Sergeant Major Academy at Fort Bliss. We wish them luck and will be greatly missed.



Delta Battery is conducting a CRAM Certification for 1-204th ADA National Guard from Mississippi from 24 June to 26 July.

For the month of July we are planning to host a Golf Tournament and a C-RAM live Fire. In August to end the summer fun we are coordinating a Family event at Six Flags for our soldiers and their families.

If any of our Soldiers or their Spouses wish to be a part and volunteer or if you just need information contact your Battery FRG Leader:

We sincerely appreciate everyone's support!

LTC Brian W. Adams and CSM Robert D. Gooden

3 – 6 ADA BATTALION *BEAR THE STANDARD

June 2011

FRG NEWSLETTER

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KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

FRG LEADER (HQ/A)
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FRG LEADER (B)
Anna Marie Van soelen
503-560-3247 Cell
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FRG LEADER (C)
Darlene Felicetti
910-261-5691 Cell
cobra.frg@hotmail.com

Family Assistance Specialist
Mon-Fri (0730-1630)
580-442-4096 Office
www.sillmwr.com/sfac

Birthdays

05/05 CW3 Nelson
05/07 SPC Reeves
05/07 MSG Huddleston
05/20 CPT Lee
05/21 SFC Mason
05/24 SFC Fadale
05/28 SSG Benson
05/28 SSG Vermilyen

Commander's Corner

LTC Elizabeth Smith

Dear Friends and Families,

It is amazing how quickly time has passed for me here...the men, women and families of this battalion have made my first year of command a complete pleasure, and I continue to be honored to serve with each and every one of you. The month of June has been exciting for the BN. The highlight for the month; we hosted a Hail & Farewell at Luigi's Italian Restaurant with over 100 attendees, which is the largest turnout we have seen for any event. Thanks to all those who came out and showed their support, and a special thanks to **SGT Carriaga** for putting the whole event together on her own. Hope to see you at our Steering Committee Meeting on 19 July where we would like to iron out the way ahead for our FRGs and the leadership within. Even if you may not be sure whether or not to participate, at least come out and join us for some fellowship and an ice cream social to cool off in the hot, Oklahoma Summer...once more, the 19th of July in the Battalion Conference Room. Hope to see you there.

Promotions

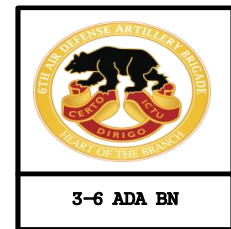
I would like to Congratulate the following exceptional Soldiers: SFC David Clark, SFC Mandrill Demps, SFC Marvin Morris and SFC Michael Dimario.

Hails

A warm welcome to SSG Jason Deshong, SSG Robert Hard, SSG Thomas Johnson, SSG Ryan Perrine and SGT Lee Smith and their families, who arrived to Bravo Battery on 15 June.

Farewells

We had to say goodbye to several more Soldiers this past month as they moved on to other chapters of their lives. From HQ/A: SFC Anthony Wiley (PCS), and SPC David Pickney (ETS). From Bravo: SGT Kevin Williams (ETS). From Charlie: SFC Misty Canchola (ETS) and SFC Gabriel Rodriguez (PCS).



Sports

Congratulations to HQ/A and Bravo Battery on winning their first game. Please come out and watch the softball teams as they gear up tonight. Bravo Battery will be playing their second game against C 2/6 and HQ/A will be playing their second game tomorrow night against B 2/6, so get out there and show your support!!

Also, a belated congratulations to SSG Sarah Aldrich for securing a place on the FCoE Army 10-miler Team!

Newborn Cubs

Expecting mother, SSG Stephanie Holman from Charlie Battery. Expected arrival date, 09 July 2011.

 * **YOU'RE INVITED - BATTALION STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING** *
 * *
 * *
 * All Family members are invited to attend the Bn Steering Committee meeting! *
 * The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss changes in the make up of the unit *
 * FRGs, develop a way ahead strategy, spend time together and offer *
 * support as well as to share information of interest to families. Any and all *
 * family members are welcome—spouses and significant others, parents, *
 * siblings, friends. Children are always welcome as well. *
 * *
 * The SC meeting will be: **Tuesday, July 19th, 6:00 pm in the Bn Conference Room.** *
 * *****

Upcoming Events

- PMG Graduation, 12 June
- BN NCOPD, 21 June
- NCO/SAMC Induction Ceremony/Luncheon, 29 June
- Bulldogs vs Cobras Olympics, 02 July
- Miranda Lambert Concert by MWR, 02 July
- Payday Activities, 08 July

Social

As always.... the **3-6 ADA Facebook** page is a great resource for events in the Battalion. We will post pictures of our events, videos from graduations and other information there on a regular basis. This is the address:

<http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/Lawton-OK/3rd-Battalion-6th-Air-Defense-Artillery-Brigade/119259838122073?ref=sgm&a=46&ajaxpipe=1>, or just do a search for 3rd Battalion, 6th Air Defense Artillery Brigade.

Until next month, "BEAR THE STANDARD!"

Sincerely,

LTC Liz Smith

Words from the FRG Senior Advisors

Hi everyone,! Summer is upon us full blast with hot days and nights. HQ/A's monthly luncheon was an absolute success, bringing the flavors of the Orient to Lawton/Fort Sill, OK. Next month's theme is BBQ from 1100 to 1300 hours in the HQ's Building. We are having our first BN combined FRG meeting on 19 July at 1800 hours at the 3-6 HQ's conference room; it will also include an ice cream social.

In September we have the semi annual post wide yard sale, please bring your ideas to our first meeting. Darlene, Tara and the volunteers from both Batteries have done a great job for the past two years and this is the first time we will have a collective booth at the Battalion level. The funds raised will go towards our annual Christmas party. I would really appreciate maximum attendance at the meeting even if you are PCSing.

MWR has some fantastic summer programs for the kids, so don't forget to give them a call.

Have a great safe summer and see you on the 19th of July.

Sun and Maria